

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-16 and 18-20 have been allowed. Applicants note that claim 26 depends from allowed claim 18, and should therefore also be allowable. Applicant's representatives contacted the Examiner via telephone on October 27, 2008 regarding this matter, and he agreed that claim 26 was also allowable. Claims 21, 22, 24 and 25 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-16, 18-20 and 26 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection in view of the comments presented herein are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 21-27 were rejected as being anticipated by Field (US 4,465,232). Applicants note that claims 23 and 27 were canceled in the previous amendment filed May 15, 2008. In addition, as noted above, since claim 26 depends on allowed claim 18, it should also be allowable. Thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) should only apply to claims 21, 22, 24 and 25. Although Applicant does not agree with the rejection, claims 21, 22, 24 and 25 have been canceled solely to expedite allowance of the application.

In view of the comments presented above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

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